

Dear Chairman Powell and Commissioners, THE TRUE ISSUES are what the undecided want to hear about! This WAR (which it is) is not the major problem most of us live with everyday, what about the economy, the edu. system, meds for our people (this new Medicare mess has cost me MORE on the average of \$6.00 a script, than I was paying!), etc. We the people have been telling all of you politicians this for months. Tell the truth about Iraqi WAR. The terrorists killed 3,000 Americans and all of you in this administration are killing many more, for what? We are in this WAR and that can not be changed but what plan do any of you have for getting out?? NOT one American life should have been lost after 9/11, whose fault is that? A hot-headed president and a Congress that did not have the GUTS to stand up to him! That is who should be taking the blame, but everyone wants to blame the OTHER guy. So, get back to the PROBLEMS we have here at home and try to redeem yourselves with good works for US! All will be forgotten a lot quicker when some of these domestic issues are settled. As a citizen who wants to be informed about the political and electoral issues that affect my life, I am greatly disappointed by the lack of informative television programming.

Local public affairs programming is virtually non-existent--constituting less than one half of 1% of all local programming. More than half of news broadcasts prior to the 2002 elections did not include a single campaign story. Our democracy is at risk when many Americans don't know basic facts about the candidates or the issues, as was the case in the 2000 elections.

Since broadcasters have clearly failed in their obligation to serve the public interest, the FCC should define meaningful public interest requirements that include local civic and electoral affairs programming. At a minimum, broadcasters should air three hours per week of local civic and electoral affairs programming, with at least two hours devoted to substantive election coverage in the six weeks prior to Election Day.

As the elections approach, a well-functioning democracy demands that citizens have access to a diversity of opinions and voices on the choices confronting us.

Sincerely, Pamela Meyer

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